

Application No.: 09/749,674

Docket No.: JCLA6439

REMARKS**Present Status of the Application**

The Office Action rejected all presently-pending claims 1-6, 8 and 9. Specifically, the Office Action rejected claims 1, 5, 6 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), as being unpatentable over Hammond (U.S. 5,638,525) in view of Takayama (U.S. 6,085,306). The Office Action also rejected claims 2-4 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hammond in view of Takayama further in view of Jaggar (US 5,568,646) and further in view of Hennessy. The Office Action rejected claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hammond in view of Takayama and further in view of Jaggar. Applicants have amended the claims to overcome the rejection. After entry of the foregoing amendments, claims 1-5 and 8-10 remain pending in the present application, and reconsideration of those claims is respectfully requested.

Discussion of claim amendment and Drawing

A clean version of Figs. 1, 2, 5A and 5B are attached.

Claim 1 is amended because the previous claim amendment deleted the word "a" erroneously and therefore the word "a" is added.

The word "switching" in previous claim 6 was erroneously marked underline as a newly added word. However, the word "switching" had been existed in claim 6 and the words marked underline other than "switching" in previous amended claim 6 were words added to original claim 6. For easy understanding, the Applicants delete claim 6 and added a new claim 10.

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Discussion of Office Action Rejections

The Office Action rejected claims 1, 5 and 8 under 35 U.S.C 103(a), as being unpatentable over Hammond in view of Takayama. However, **combination of Hammond and Takayama does not disclose the feature of "... the processor status register contains an instruction set selector (ISS) for indicating a current instruction set of the instruction sets; ... a program counter control, responsive to the instruction set selector to modify the value of the program counter..." as claimed in claim 1.**

The Office Action states the same technique feature of the Hammond as stated in the previously first Office Action. The Office Action also states that, figure 7 and column 11, lines 16-34 of Takayama teaches that the program counter stores an address of the next instruction that is fetched (using the instruction fetch unit of figure 4 to access memory) and executed. However, as stated in the previous Response, Hammond *does not disclose to use a program counter control, which is responsive to the instruction set selector to modify the value of the program counter to perform the task.* Further, Takayama disclose to make the selector 33e output one of the three types of values to the instruction fetch unit 39 as the effective address *in accordance to the instruction is branch or not* and, if branch, relative address or absolute address is used. Therefore, combination of Hammond and Takayama does not disclose the above mentioned technique feature of claim 1 because none of them teaches to modify the value of the program counter **according to ISS, which indicates a current instruction set.** In other words, *Takayama changes the program counter according to branch or not instead of which instruction set is used. Hammond selects a correct path for decoding instruction but not teaches to modify value of the*

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program counter according to ISS. Accordingly, combination of Hammond and Takayama at most teaches to changes the program counter according to branch or not and selects a correct path for decoding instruction according to ISS. However, they do not teach to modify the program counter according to ISS as claimed in claim 1.

Accordingly, claim 1 is patentable over Hammond in view of Takayama.

For at least the same reason set forth above, claims 5 and 8 are patentable over Hammond in view of Takayama as a matter of law since claim 1, which is an independent claim depended by claims 5 and 8, is patentable over Hammond in view of Takayama.

Claims 2-4 are patentable over Hammond in view of Takayama further in view of Jaggar and further in view of Hennessy. As discussed above, claim 1 is patentable over Hammond in view of Takayama. Further, according to disclosure of Jaggar and Hennessy that is raised by the Office Action, combination of Hammond, Takayama, Jaggar and Hennessy does not disclose, teach or suggest the feature of "... the processor status register contains an instruction set selector (ISS) for indicating a current instruction set of the instruction sets; ... a program counter control, responsive to the instruction set selector to modify the value of the program counter..." as claimed in claim 1. Accordingly, claims 2-4 are patentable over Hammond in view of Takayama further in view of Jaggar and further in view of Hennessy.

Claim 9 is patentable over Hammond in view of Takayama and further in view of Jaggar. As discussed above, claim 1 is patentable over Hammond in view of Takayama. Further, according to disclosure of Jaggar that is raised by the Office Action, combination of Hammond, Takayama and Jaggar does not disclose, teach or suggest the feature of "... the processor status

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register contains an instruction set selector (ISS) for indicating a current instruction set of the instruction sets; ... a program counter control, responsive to the instruction set selector to modify the value of the program counter...” as claimed in claim 1. Accordingly, claim 9 is patentable over Hammond in view of Takayama further in view of Jaggar.

The newly added claim 10 is patentable over the cited prior arts because claim 1 is patentable over Hammond in view of Takayama, and further, according to discussing above, combination of Hammond, Takayama, Jaggar and Hennessy does not disclose, teach or suggest the feature of claim 1, either. Therefore, claim 10 is patentable over the prior arts as a matter of law since claim 1, which is depended by claim 10, is patentable over the prior arts.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-5 and 8-10 patently define over the prior art references, and should be allowed.

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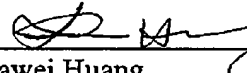
CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that the pending claims 1-5 and 8-10 are in proper condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

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